



## MEMORANDUM

From: William Warihay, Tournament Administration Committee Chair  
Johnathan Woodward, Tabulation Director

To: All AMTA Member Schools, Coaches, and Competitors

Re: 2013 Bids to the Opening Round Championship Series

We are entering a truly exciting time in the growth of AMTA. In February 2012, a record-breaking 571 teams competed in AMTA regional tournaments—an increase of about 40 teams from 2011. That growth exceeded the available spaces at numerous 2012 regional tournament sites, resulting in a significant number of teams remaining on the wait list into December and January.

To accommodate this growth, AMTA will add a 25<sup>th</sup> regional site in 2013. The number of bids to the Opening Round Championship Series (ORCS) will remain at 192, which has been the number of total bids since the ORCS system began in 2009.

AMTA rules require that each regional tournament have an equal number of ORCS bids. Therefore, in 2013, each regional will have seven direct bids to ORCS, for a total of 175 direct bids from Regionals to ORCS. The remaining 17 ORCS bids are open bids. AMTA will distribute these open bids using the same nationwide open bid process used in previous years. These open bids will be initially assigned to ORCS sites across the country, so that open bids will be available in numerous locations. As in previous years, when regular bids are returned for any reason, such as when more than two teams from a school earn bids, those regular bids will turn into additional open bids that will be awarded via the open bid list.

With regard to Regional feeders to ORCS, 24 of the 25 Regionals will have all seven regular bids designated to feed into one specified ORCS location, just as in previous years. However, one regional tournament—State College, PA—will have its seven bids split up and designated to feed into the Easton, PA, Philadelphia, PA, and Hamilton, OH ORCS. This procedure is necessary because of the addition of the 25<sup>th</sup> regional tournament. For teams that earn ORCS bids at the State College regional tournament, a random draw at the regional awards ceremony, without regard to regional record, will determine which ORCS each team shall attend. If a school with two teams earns two bids at the State College regional, both teams will earn bids to a single site—the random draw will not be allowed to split up the two teams.

AMTA is continuing to plan for future growth. Discussions within AMTA are focused on ensuring that all teams have access to quality competitions as our organization continues to grow. These discussions include the possibility of additional regional tournaments, ORCS bids, ORCS tournaments, and expansion of the number of teams at the National Championship tournament.

A listing of all 2013 Regional and ORCS sites and dates will be posted on the AMTA website soon. Team assignments to Regionals and feeder assignments of Regionals to ORCS will be posted just before Thanksgiving. Teams are reminded to make NO assumptions about team assignments and tournament feeders until AMTA announces them in November.

Please contact Johnathan or Will with any questions or comments about these procedures. Best of luck as you begin the 2012-2013 college mock trial season.